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Mep of Boulder Dam Project







Three Great Colorado River Projects

Southern California and the whole Southwest are vitally interested in three great Colorado River projects which, when consummated, will assure permanent flood protection and future development for this region. These projects are:

- 1. Boulder Canvon Dam 2. All-American Canal
- Colorado River Aqueduct

Construction of Boulder Canyon Dam and the All-American Canal are provided for in the Swing-Johnson bill, already adopted by the House of Representatives and now awaiting final action by the United States Senate. Because these works involve flood control and regulation of an inter-state and international river, they must be handled by the Federal Government.

The Colorado River Aqueduct, through which the cities of Southern California are to secure an urgently needed additional domestic water supply, is to be constructed, financed and operated by these cities, through a Metropolitan Water District. The Aqueduct is not included in the works provided for in the Swing-Johnson bill, but is to be built and paid for directly by the cities benefited.

Boulder Dam Project Self-Financing

Boulder Canyon Dam and the All-American Canal are self-financing projects. Construction of these two vitally necessary works by the Federal Government will not cost the taxpayers of the Nation one dollar.

All moneys invested by the Government in constructing and operating the dam will be refunded, with interest, by the sale of hydro-electric power and water, made available at the dam. To quarantee the repayment of the Government's investment, the Swing-Johnson bill provides that the Government shall not expend one dollar on the dam until the Secretary of the Interior holds contracts from responsible agencies sufficient to repay, within a period of not more than 50 years, all of the money invested by the Government, plus interest.

Referring to the construction of Boulder Dam and the All-American Canal, the Swing-Johnson bill, in Section 4, Subdivision b, provides, as follows:

"Before any money is appropriated or any construction work done or contracted for, the Secretary of the Interior shall make provision for revenues, by contract, in accordance with the provisions of this Act, adequate, in his judgment, to insure payment of all expenses of operation and maintenance of said works incurred by the United States and the repayment, within fifty years from the date of the completion of the project, of all amounts advanced to the fund under subdivision (b) of section 2, together with interest thereon."

The cost of constructing and operating the All-American Canal, the bill provides, is to be refunded to the Government by direct assessments on the irrigated lands benefited by this Canal.

The Boulder Dam and All-American Canal projects, as provided for in the Swing-Johnson bill, have been recommended by the Department of the Interior, following a careful study and survey of the Colorado River flood control and development problems. Both of these works have been endorsed and urged as imperatively necessary by the foremost engineers in America.

Boulder Dam

Boulder Canyon Dam, as authorized in legislation pending in Congress, will be 550 feet high, and will create a reservoir capable of holding 26,000,000 acre feet of water—or enough water to cover 26,000,000 acres to a depth of one foot.

Boulder Dam will render three great

services:

1. It will eliminate forever the Colorado River flood menace, which now annually threatens to destroy Imperial Valley and other developed areas in Southern California and Arizona;

2. It will conserve the Colorado's flood water by creating a gigantic reservoir—and thus provide a dependable domestic and irrigation water supply for Arizona, Ne-

vada and California;

3. It will create a site for the development of 1,000,000 horsepower of hydro-electricity. This electrical energy is urgently needed in the power consuming centers of the Southwest.

All-American Canal

The All-American Canal, as planned by the Reclamation Service, will have its intake at Laguna Dam on the Colorado River, 20 miles above the Mexican boundary line, and will extend for a distance of about 60 miles westward, entirely on American soil.

The canal system upon which Imperial Valley now depends for its domestic and irrigation water extends for a distance of 60 miles through the Republic of Mexico.

The Mexican Government, in return for the concession to operate the canal in Mexico, demands the right to divert for use on lands in Mexico one-half of all the water carried by the canal. This has resulted in serious water shortages in Imperial Valley during the past several years.

The All-American Canal will assure a dependable water supply for the developed ranches in Imperial Valley and will make possible the irrigation of additional areas in Imperial and Coachella Valleys.

Colorado River Aqueduct

A large additional supply of domestic water must be secured in order to meet the constantly increasing needs of many Southern California cities. Water in the quantities required is not available in the immediate vicinity of these cities. Consequently they have turned to the only remaining undeveloped water source in the Southwest—the Colorado River.

Detailed surveys made by the City of Los Angeles, under the direction of William Mulholland, reveal

that it is feasible and practicable to construct a Colorado River Aqueduct.

As now planned, the Aqueduct will be approximately 260 miles long—a few miles longer than Los Angeles' Owens River Aqueduct. It will have a capacity of 1500 second feet—enough water to supply the needs of 7,500,000 people. It will be, by far, the largest aqueduct in the world.

BOULDER DAM ASSOCIATION - August, 1928

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